

John Boehner
Chairman
8th District, Ohio

House Meets at 10:00 a.m. for Legislative Business

Anticipated Floor Action:

H.R. 1003—Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act



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Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 1003 under suspension of the rules as its only order of business today. Yesterday, the House passed a rule allowing suspensions to be considered on Wednesday and Thursday. The bill is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: H.R. 1003 prohibits the use of federal funds for assisted suicide, euthanasia, and “mercy killing.” The bill does not apply to items typically found in a “living will,” such as withholding or withdrawing medical treatment, nutrition, and hydration. The bill also amends the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Health and Human Services Secretary to develop programs designed to reduce the rate of suicide, including assisted suicide, and to train health care staff in pain management and suicide prevention. CBO estimates that enactment will have no budgetary impact. The bill was introduced by Mr. Hall and was ordered reported by the Commerce Committee by a vote of 45-2.

Views (on the overall bill):

Republican Leadership:	Supports
Chairman Bliley:	Supports
Clinton Administration:	No Position Available

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #8, April 4, 1997.

